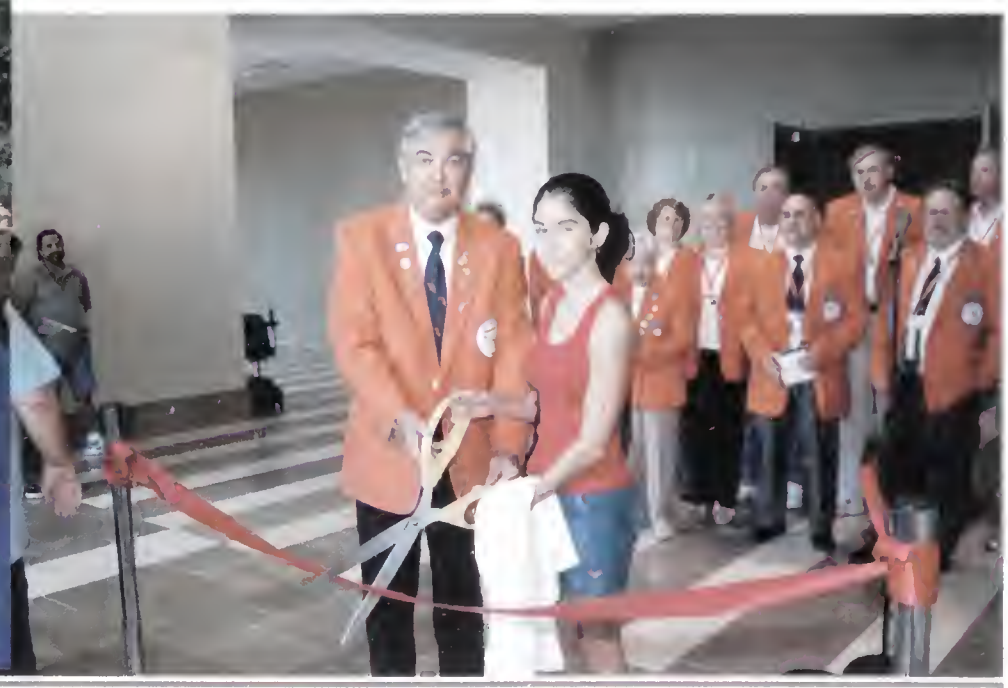
FUN Topics

VOLUME 54, NO. 3 FALL 2009

The official publication of the FLORIDA UNITED NUMISMATISTS, INC.

SummerFUN 2009



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SECRET COIN HOARD

21,297 Pounds Of Coins!

One of my recent projects began in May when I contracted to purchase an estate coin hoard that truly was "too big to mail." The collector had accumulated his holdings over several decades and they were secreted throughout his home and several other storage locations. Pictured above is one of those hidden-away places, and one of the 7 rooms I used to secure the hoard and prepare it for resale.

A deal of this size requires considerable logistical planning. My first step was to hire strong, reliable men to help with the loading & unloading. All of my first choice men from prior projects agreed to join me. A 9-ton truck was rented and our small caravan made the trip out of town, accompanied by our plain clothes, professional security. The first load took all day, and two days later we were back for the rest. A great sense of satisfaction was evident when the last cart load was in place. However, the serious work was yet ahead.

At 9am the very next morning, *The Great Sort* began. Picture 10 tons of coins mixed up in boxes of all shapes & sizes. It was like a big treasure hunt. One employee might be slugging through a few hundred pounds of US90 silver coins when, suddenly, a box of 45 gold coins popped out. Eureka! This went on for several weeks, simultaneous with much shipping & selling.

Now, two full months and several coin shows later, the hoard is essentially gone, dispersed all throughout North America. The heirs are pleased that their proceeds became over double expectations (we meticulously accounted to the last little wheat cent) and I am again looking for my next fun "project." So the question now is,

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President's Message

Bob Hurst - FUN President
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The FUN-Topics editor told me that I needed to write a President's message for this fall issue and oh, by the way, you're late I kept thinking to myself, I just did that. Then I looked back in my files and the one that I was thinking about was for Fall 2008. Wow – has another year already gone by? Summer FUN 2009 has also come and gone and was a success even with the economy being sluggish.

FUN's staff arrived and hit the ground running early in the week prior to the convention. Skip Mesick set up Photo ID with **Carrie Best** and **Angie Achenbach** helping with the duties of making new dealer badges. **Nancy Casey** and her staff of **Jim Best, Glenda Hocker, Glendora Mercer, Shirley Hays** and **Vera Sullivan** quickly sat up the Dealer Registration and starting working almost immediately.

Behind the scenes was our Keys and Cases director, **Ed Abbott** making sure that the cases that were put on the dealer's tables were serviceable. Helping Eddie was **Pete Hickey** one of FUN's board members and **Mickey Achenbach.**

Also working behind the scenes was our Sgt at Arms, **Steve Hodges**. Steve was responsible for helping get the dealers in to the convention center with as little hassle as possible. By all accounts, everything went extremely smooth during the move in. Helping Steve at the loading docks were members of the Palm Beach Coin Club (PBCC), **Jerry Coles, Larry Siehl, Andy Hartman** and **Ed Napoli.**

Fred Lake, FUN's official photographer and FUN Director could be seen scooting around the bourse floor on an electric scooter taking photographs that we use for publication and historical purposes.

As the conventions official opening approached, FUN Director **Donna Moon** made sure that the Public Registration area was set and ready to receive the public. Donna stayed busy and I relied on her a great deal at Summer FUN, as she was responsible for Public Registration, Membership and also the Message Center. Helping Donna out was Director **Bob Russell** who pitched in whenever and wherever he was needed. The Palm Beach Coin Club also came to the rescue with the following members who helped at Public Registration and the Message Center: **Gary Braisted, Emily Diaz, Linda Biancarosa, Jim Biancarosa, Sandy Pearl, Jerry Coles, Bob Leneve, Dick Toth, Bob Duley, Perry Wurst, Larry Siehl, Doug Wolf, Tom Wolfe, Andy Hartmann, Dennis Tyminski, Chriss Reed, Lisa Roach, Sol Kramer, Carole Marshall, Nick & Evelyn Tenaglia, George Kovacic, Joel Linton, Bud Maguire, Joe Holfener, Tim Morley, Rick Fairchild, Elva Lester, Ed Napoli, John Labota,** and **Charles Passler**

Thursday, 9 July, 10 A.M. Time to open Summer FUN 2009

After a few opening remarks to those who were eagerly awaiting the doors to open, I looked into the crowd and picked **Alexa Alahouzos** to help me at the ribbon cutting. (Photo on page 41). I think that I caught her off guard but she was a real sport about it and did a great job with a huge smile. Afterwards, her mother told me that Alexa was excited to be there and actually see the ribbon cutting. Taking part in the actual cutting was a plus. Also, I am glad to say that Alexa and her father are two of the newest members of FUN. Thank you very much Alexa.

Randy Campbell, FUN's Educational Director arranged four educational talks for Summer FUN. First up on Thursday, was yours truly, **Bob Hurst**, and my topic was "Enjoy the Diversity of World Coins and the ABC's of Collecting Them". FUN Vice President **Tony Swicer** was next with "Collecting U.S. Paper Money". On Friday, **Chuck Heck** who has spoken at FUN for many years talked about "Early American Copper Coins that will be Strong Performers in the Current Recession". Following Chuck was **Randy Campbell** speaking on "My top 20 Recession Beaters, From Indian and Lincoln Cents through Morgan & Peace Dollars". For those of you who know Randy and for those who don't – he has been the FUN Educational Director for well more than half of the 55 years that FUN has been in existence. Also, Randy has now moved back into the State of Florida and I had the opportunity to ask Randy to fill a vacant position on the board of directors and he graciously accepted. Thank you so much for your dedication to FUN and being there when we need you.

Our YN Director **Tony Bonaro** arrived eager to get started gathering up goodies for the YN's. Tony had 64 YN's on Saturday morning and 49 Scouts in the afternoon for the Coin Collecting Merit Badge program. Tony has been our YN Director for about 5 years now and has done a terrific job. What I find very interesting about Tony's programs is that many adults would learn a lot from them as beginning collectors.

Continued on page 41

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Convention News

The Summer FUN show ended last week and I was sad to see it end! The convention coordinator's job is interesting because I prepare for months and months to ensure a successful show, and in the blink of an eye it's history. The good news is that it was a successful show, thanks to the great support of everyone involved. First and foremost we have the FUN board working all year preparing for their jobs and attending board meetings. At Summer FUN we are very blessed to have tremendous volunteer help from the Palm Beach Coin Club. This year we had 31 volunteers working to staff the message center, the public registration booths, and the security doors for dealer move-in. I give my personal thanks to the Palm Beach Coin Club for all they do for FUN in West Palm Beach! We had four educational seminars on a variety of numismatic topics, and two clubs held meetings during the convention. We had a great mix of dealers with tables, "early bird" dealers walking the floor, and public attendance topped 3,000 for the 3-day show. Most dealers left happy, and those who stayed through Saturday did very well as public attendance was 1,500 that day. The Heritage Auction had a hammer price of over $9 milliion. In today's economy, I consider this a successful show!

I will now turn my attention and planning efforts to the 2010 January convention. I will remind the dealers to have their paperwork and payments in by the deadline, schedule club meetings, work on the final floor plan, and all the other little details that lay the foundation for a successful show. Please don't hesitate to let me know if there is anything I can do for you.

Rumors, rumors, rumors. I always wonder how they get started, and it amazes me that they tend to spread like wildfire. Recently I have heard many rumors about future locations of both FUN shows. Well, let me give you the facts because the contracts through 2013 (January) and 2012 (Summer FUN) are signed and in place. Please mark your calendars, or put these dates in your "FUN Show" folder for future reference. Here is where we will be:

January conventions – Jan. 7-10, 2010 in Hall NB of the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) in Orlando; Jan. 6-9, 2011 at the Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, FL; Jan. 5-8, 2012 in Hall SB (mirror image of Hall NB, SB faces International Drive) of the OCCC in Orlando; Jan. 10-13, 2013 in Hall SB of the OCCC in Orlando, FL

Summer FUN – July 8-10, 2010, July 7-9, 2011 and July 12-14, 2012 all in the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach, FL

Please watch your mail in late October for your dues renewal notices. Dealers, you will want to pay your dues before you arrive at dealer registration in January. This year dues will not be collected in the dealer registration lines as it is too time-consuming and slows down the lines for everyone. If your dues are not paid, you will have to get out of the dealer registration line and go to the membership counter and pay your dues, then back to your proper dealer registration line. So, please pay your dues promptly when you receive your dues renewal notice and you'll speed things up for everyone, and particularly for yourself, at dealer registration in January.

Last but not least, I had an interesting conversation with Jim Halperin of Heritage Auctions in West Palm Beach. Jim referred to us as "The FUN Machine." It was a very complimentary title, as he said anything with "The FUN Machine" behind it is destined to be a success. I feel very privileged and fulfilled to be an integral part of "The FUN Machine." Thank you, Jim, for your kind words about our organization and everyone who is involved in the success of the conventions.

Okay folks. It's time for you to mark your calendars and make your hotel reservations and travel plans for FUN 2010 in Orlando. I'll give more details in the winter edition of FUN Topics. Until then, we'll see you during our FUN travels.

Cindy

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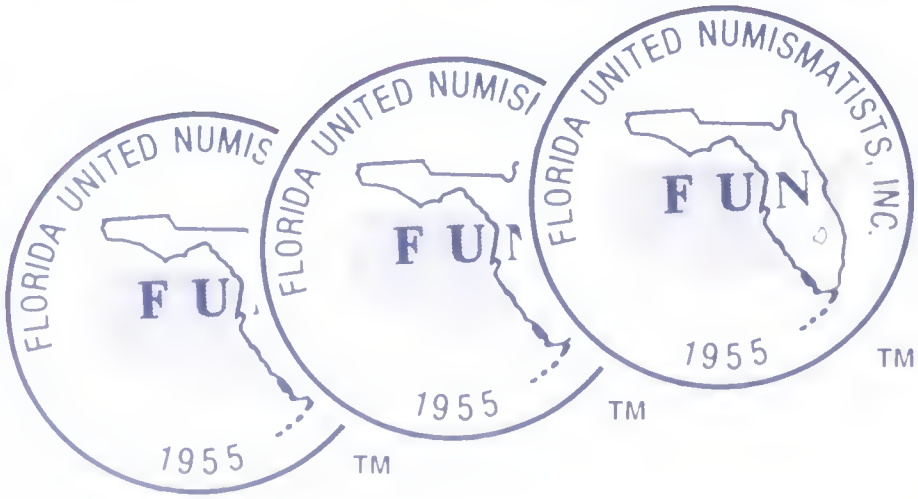

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Sept 10-12, 2010

April 8 -10, 2010

Dealer Setup – Thursday @ 8:00 am
Thursday: 12 noon - 6 pm
Friday: 10 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 3 pm

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For more info, please visit our website at http://www.centralfloridacoinclub.org or call Donna Moon at 407 657 6440 - email cfccbourse@hotmail.com

Show Calendar

JIM BEST • Show Coordinator
PO Box 5202 ••• Lakeland, Fl 33807-5202
863-644-0903• • • **Email:** funtopics@aol.com
fax: 863-701-7370

2009

August 21-23
Blue Ridge Numismatic Association 47th Annual Convention, Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center, Dalton, GA. Contact: Bob Hurst PO Box 5506, Titusville, FL 32783. PH: 321-383-1742.
email: FORVM@cfl.rr.com

August 22
Brandon Coin Club Coin, Currency, and Stamp Show. Brandon Elks Lodge, 800 Centennial Dr. Brandon, FL. Contact: Mark Palermo. PH: 813-361-0740.
email: mpalermo1@tampabay.rr.com

August 23
Palm Beach Coin Show, Knight's of Columbus, 1155 S Congress Ave, West Palm Beach, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

August 28-30
Ohio Coin Expo. Quality Inn, 4742 Brecksville Rd., Richfield, OH. Contact: E.J. McBane, PO Box 511, Wellsville, OH 43968. PH: 330-303-7963.
email: pmcbane@ohiocoin.com

September 6
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, David Park Recreation Center, 108 N 33rd Court, Hollywood, FL
Contact: Mark Eshleman, PO Box 81-3732, Hollywood, FL 33081
PH: 954-242-5561
email: MWEshleman@aol.com

September 12
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Burt Jones - 813-971-2577
email: robert_wly@yahoo.com

September 11-13
Central Florida Coin Club's FALL Coin & Money Show. Central Florida Fairgrounds, Hall E- 4603 W Colonial Dr. Orlando, FL. Contact Donna Moon PO Box 568061, Orlando, FL 32856
PH 407-657-6440
email cfccbourse@hotmail.com

September 13
S. Brevard Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show. Eau Galle Civic Ctr. 1551 Highland Ave. Melbourne, FL. PH: 321-751-3647. Contact: Alysha Wilson
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net

September 20
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Volunteer Park Comty Ctr. 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102
PH: 954-802-4967.
email: magikj48@yahoo.com

September 21-26
Whitman Coin &Collectibles Philadelphia Expo! Philadelphia Convention Center. www.WhitmanExpo.com. 404-214-4373.
email:info@whitmanexpo.com

September 26-27
Fort Walton Beach Coin Club Show. Westwood Retirement Community. 1001 MarWalt Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL. Contact: Dave Parenteau. 2445 Elkhart Dr., Navarre. FL 32566. PH: 850-936-4892
email: pronto22@bellsouth.net

September 27
Palm Beach Coin Show, Knight's of Columbus, 1155 S Congress Ave, West Palm Beach, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

October 4
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, David Park Recreation Center, 108 N 33rd Court, Hollywood, FL
Contact: Mark Eshleman, PO Box 81-3732, Hollywood, FL 33081
PH 954-242-5561
email: MWEshleman@aol.com

****October 9-11**
The Collectorama Coin & Currency Show The Lakeland Center. 701 West Lime, Lakeland. FL ++ Contact Ed Kuszmar PO Box 4049, Boca Raton, FL 33429
PH 561-392-8551
email CollectoramaShow@aol.com

October 10
St Petersburg Coin Club Show Disabled American Veterans. 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg. FL 33713 Contact Burt Jones - 813-971-2577
email: robert_wly@yahoo.com

October 11
S. Brevard Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show Eau Galle Civic Ctr. 1551 Highland Ave Melbourne, FL. PH: 321-751-3647 Contact: Alysha Wilson
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net

October 17
Tampa Bay Coin Club Coin Show, American Legion Post #5, 3810 W Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33609 9:30-3:00PM, Contact: Mark Palermo, PO Box 6768, Seffner, FL 33583 PH:813-361-0740.
email: mpalermo1@tampabay.rr.com

October 18
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Art Serve Library, 1350 East Sunrise Blvd Ft. Lauderdale ++ Contact Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102
PH: 954-802-4967

October 24
Brandon Coin Club Coin, Currency and Stamp Show. Brandon Elks Lodge. 800 Centennial Dr. Brandon, FL Contact Mark Palermo. PH: 813-361-0740
email: mpalermo1@tampabay.rr.com

October 25
Palm Beach Coin Show, Knight's of Columbus, 1155 S Congress Ave West Palm Beach, FL Contact Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

November 1
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show David Park Recreation Center 108 N 33rd Court Hollywood FL
Contact Mark Eshleman PO Box 81-3732 Hollywood FL 33081
PH 954-242-5561
email MWEshleman@aol.com

Show Calendar

(continued from page 17)

November 8
S. Brevard Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show. Eau Gallie Civic Ctr. 1551 Highland Ave. Melbourne, FL. PH: 321-751-3647. Contact: Alysha Wilson
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net

November 14
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Burt Jones - 813-971-2577
email: robert_wly@yahoo.com

November 14
Fort Myers Coin and Paper Money Show, Elks Lodge, 1900 Park Meadows Drive, Fort Myers. Contact: Jay Chamberlain, PO Box 62056, Ft. Myers, FL 33906, Ph: 239-297-8592.
email: jcflcoin@comcast.net

November 15
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Art Serve Library, 1350 East Sunrise Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102
PH: 954-802-4967

November 22
Palm Beach Coin Show, Knight's of Columbus, 1155 S Congress Ave, West Palm Beach, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5).

November 22
Ohio Coin Expo. Quality Inn, 4742 Brecksville Rd., Richfield, OH. Contact: E.J. McBane, PO Box 511, Wellsville, OH 43968. PH: 330-303-7963.
email: pmcbane@ohiocoin.com

December 6
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, David Park Recreation Center, 108 N 33rd Court, Hollywood, FL
Contact: Mark Eshleman, PO Box 81-3732, Hollywood, FL 33081
PH: 954-242-5561
email: MWEshleman@aol.com

December 12
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Burt Jones - 813-971-2577
email: robert_wly@yahoo.com

December 13
S. Brevard Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show Eau Galle Civic Ctr. 1551 Highland Ave Melbourne, FL. PH: 321-751-3647. Contact: Alysha Wilson
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net

December 18-20
St. Augustine Coin Show, St. John's County Agricultural Convention Center, I-95 @ SR16...exit 318, St. Augustine, FL. Contact: Ed McDonald, 904-819-0707.
email: AmerEagleGold@aol.com.
AD - page 53

December 20
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Art Serve Library, 1350 East Sunrise Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102
PH: 954-802-4967

December 27
Palm Beach Coin Show, Knight's of Columbus, 1155 S Congress Ave, West Palm Beach, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5).

2010

January 7 - 10
54th Annual F.U.N. Convention. Orange County Convention Center, 9800 International Drive, Orlando, FL. Contact: Cindy Wibker, PO Box 471147, Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1147
PH: 407-321-8747; Fax: 407-321-5138
e-mail: Cwibker@aol.com AD - page 60

**Commercial Show

If you do not see your show listed here, please give Jim Best a call to have it listed in future issues of Topics.

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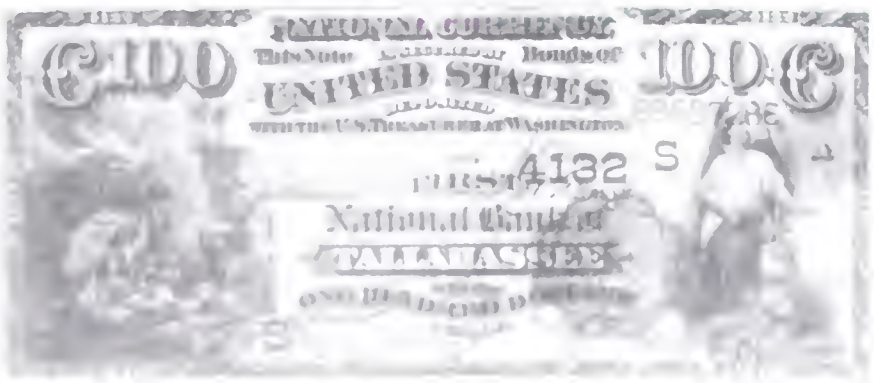

Example: We will pay $25,000 and up for this note

COIN CLUBS

If you would like copies of FUN-Topics for distribution at your coin show contact the EDITOR at least three months in advance.

This advance notice will insure that sufficient copies are available for your show.

CONTACT:
Jim Best
funtopics@aol.com
863-644-0903
PO Box 5202 Lakeland, Fl 33807-5202
fax: 863-701-7370

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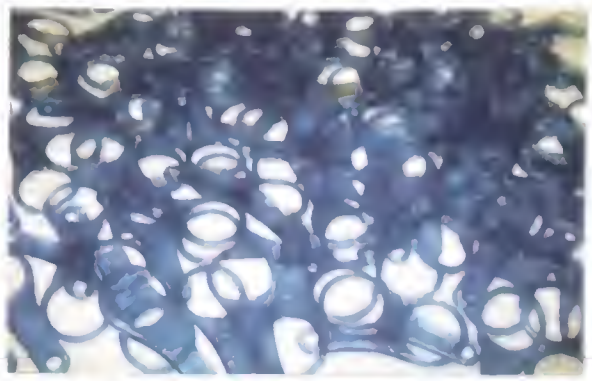
The Tennessee State Numismatic Society

being a Blue Ridge state, donated 150 magnifying glasses to be given to the first 50 Young Numismatists each day during the Blue Ridge Show held August 21-23, 2009. This is their way of helping BRNA celebrate their 50th anniversary.



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F.U.N. NEW MEMBERS

#	NAME	ST.
21891	RED ROSE COIN CLUB	PA
21892	ZINN, DAVID	FL
J21893	CARR, SEAN	FL
A21894	PANKRATZ, BONNIE	WI
A21895	ROSENCRANS, JUDY	WI
21896	INTERNATIONAL BANK NOTE SOC.	IN
21897	MILLS, WILLIAM B.	FL
21898	POMEX, STEVE	FL
21899	SALLMAN, JASON E.	FL
21900	SCHENAVAR, DEREK	FL
21901	ROBERTS, EARL M.	FL
J21902	CHASE, MAX	TN
21903	MURABITO, BEN	NY
21904	CEBALLOS, EVELYN	FL
J21905	HELICHER, BRANDON	NY
J21906	HELICHER, WILLIAM	NY
21907	SACILOTTO, MICHAEL	PA
21908	PORRAS, ROY	TX
A21909	BARKER, ADELE	FL
21910	HALL, DAVID K.	TN
21911	NELSON, RALPH	FL
A21912	NELSON, ANNE MARIE	FL
J21913	MILLER, MEGAN	FL
21914	MORLEY, TIM	FL
21915	GALLO, LISA	FL
21916	COAKLEY, GEORGE	FL
21917	GLENN, TERRY	FL
21918	SCHWARTZ, ALAN	FL
21919	HOUSTON, JAMES E.	FL
J21920	ALAHOUZOS, ALEXA	FL
21921	ALAHOUZOS, JOHN	FL
21922	FOLEY, LLOYD E.	FL
J21923	ACKERMAN, JOSH	FL
21924	TITLOW, WILLIAM E.	FL
21925	AVRUTSKIY, ILYA	NY
21926	DEKO, DENIS	RUSSIA
21927	AUSTIN, JEFF	NC
21928	BALIKO, RYAN	TX
21929	WALDMAN, STEVE	FL
J21930	HALPERIN, MIKEY	TX
21931	TABACHNIK, JORGE	FL
J21932	GROSECLOSE, WYATT	NC
21933	ROSENBERG, ANDREW	NV
21934	TINDAL, NICOLE	FL
21935	CIOCIOLA, JEFFREY	FL
J21936	KUSZMAR, BRANDON	FL
21937	HALL, JOHN	CO
21938	ROMANO, ENZIO	NY
21939	MAXWELL, MARK	FL
21940	MILLER, WAYNE	FL
21941	OZLANDO, PEDRO	VENEZUELA
21942	ANSIA, MARCOS	FL
21943	ANSIA, ANTONIO	FL
21944	ACOSTA, RALPH	FL
21945	MARSHALL, JOE	FL
J21946	HALPERIN, DAVE	TX
J21947	STICKNEY, CHRIS	FL
21948	COLLES, JERRY J	FL
J21949	REILY, WILLIAM	FL

This listing will be continued in the Winter Issue of Topics

F.U.N. Member Clubs

Tony Swicer • FUN Club Liaison
PO Box 5823 ··· Lake Worth, Fl 33466
email: swicer@comcast.net
ANA Glenn Smedley Award winner 2007
2007 NLG Award Winner for Best Column

American Israel Numismatic Assoc.
Simcha Kuritzky, Treasurer, 1110 Fidler Lane #1015, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3417. Simcha.Kuritsky@cgifederal.com

Ancient City Coin Club
PO Box 814, St Augustine, FL 32085-0814
Denny'a Restaurant, SR16 & I-95.
7:30 PM, 3rd Monday

Barber Coin Collectors' Society
% Eileen Ribar, 2053 Edith Place, Merrick, NY 11566
www.BarberCoins.org

Blue Ridge Numismatic Association LM- 686
Contact: BRNA, P O Box 569, Selmer, TN 38375 (www.brna.org)
Bourse:Bob Hurst, PH: 321-383-1742
email: forvm@cfl.rr.com
Annual meeting at Dalton GA

Brandon Coin Club, Inc #20799
Contact: Mark Palermo, Pres. PH: 813-361-0740. Books-A-Millon in Brandon
7:00 PM - 3rd Tuesday

Bust Half Nut Club
Contact: Glenn Peterson, 9301 Park West Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37923
ANA annual and regional meetings

Bust Quarter Collectors Society
9301 Park West Blvd.
Knoxville, TN 37923

Central Florida Coin Club - LM 568
Contact: PO Box 568061, Orlando, FL 32856. Senior Citizen's Center ,Corner of Marks St & Magnolia Ave
7:30 PM - 2nd & 4th Wednesday

Central States Numismatic Society - LM 827
PO Box 841
Logansport, IN 46947

Clearwater Coin Club - LM 395
% 245 Main St., Dunedin, FL 34698.
American Legion Post #7, 1760 Turner St., Clearwater, FL. Doors open at 6pm.
7:00 PM - 2nd & 4th Tuesday

Coin Club of Pasco County
PO Box 1012, Port Richey, FL 34673
Meetings: 2nd Thurs 7PM. Regency Park Civic Association, 10240 Regency Park Blvd . Port Richey. FL 34668
Http //pascocoinclub 50megs.com

CONECA-Combined Organization of Numismatic Error Collectors of America.
Robert "BJ" Neff, 321 Kingslake Drive, Debary, FL 32713
email: wavyseps2003@aol.com
www.conecaonline.org

Cuban Numismatic Association
Contact: Frank Putrow 727-531-7337
email: FXPUTROW@aol.com
www.cubannumismaticassociation.com

Currency Club of Long Island
PO Box 173, Massapequa Park, NY 11762. Contact: Jim Grim PH: 516-317-0588

Early American Coppers - LM 587
EAC, PO Box 3497, Lake Wowrth, FL 334365-3497. *Web site:* eacs.org.
Annual conventions, regional meetings

Florida Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club
c/o Mark Lighterman 5224 West SR 46 #40, Sanford, FL 32771

FloridaToken Society-LM560
Contact: Pat Hynds, Sec/Treas, 4746 South Atlantic #2, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7182
WebSite: http:www.steveratliff.com./fts/
Email: Steve@Ratliff.com
Meets 4 times yearly

Fly-In Club - Flying Eagle & Indian Cents
PO Box 162, LaFox, IL 60147

Fort Lauderdale Coin Club - LM 726
PO Box 15604, Plantation, FL 33318 - Volunteer Park Community Ctr., 12050 W Sunrise Blvd., Plantation, FL.
7:15 PM - 2nd & 4th Thursday
www.ftlauderdalecoinclub.com

Fort Myers/Cape Coral Coin Club
Contact: PO Box 6121, Ft. Myers, FL 33911-6121; contact person: Gary Lewis 239-699-7719, meeting place: 3601 Riverside Drive. Ft. Myers, FL 33901
7:00 PM - 3rd Thursday
email: *gelewis@aol.com*

Fort Walton Beach Coin Club
Contact: http://www pensacolanumismativsociety.20m com - Meeting Place Joe & Eddies Restaurant. 400 N Elgin Pkwy,
6:45 PM - 2ndThursday
email. pensacolacoin@ att net

Full Step Nickel Club
Contact Darrell Crane PO Box 10909 Burbank CA 91510-0909
PH 818-759-4745

Georgia Numismatic Association -LM 752
Secretary - Ron Wichman at rlwichman @bellsouth net 707-394-4103
PO Box 76161, Atlanta, GA 30358-1161
website: www.gamoney org

Gold Coast Coin Club
PO Box 81-3732, Hollywood, FL 33081
Contact: Roger Lane
www.goldcoastcoinclub com

Greater Daytona Beach Coin Club
PO Box 214005, South Daytona , FL 32121-4005 PH 386-305-3536 - SICA Hall Community Center, 1065 Daytona Ave, Holly Hill, FL
bobcoin@earthlink net
7:00 PM - 3rd Wednesday

GreaterJacksonvilleCoinClub
PO Box 48322, Jacksonville, FL 32247
PH: 904-733-8040 - NE Florida Safety Council, 1725 Art Museum Dr. Jacksonville, FL 32207
htttp://gjcc.anaclubs.org/
7:00 PM - 2nd Monday

ICTA
Contact: Eloise Ullman, PO Box 1365 Severna Park, MD 21146-8365
PH: 410-626-7005 - FAX:410-626-7007
Summer @ ANA -- Winter @ FUN

International Association of Silver Art Collectors
Contact: Nancy Yee, Sec/Treas, PO Box 28415, Seattle, WA 98118
Annual meeting

International Bank Note Society
Contact. Joe Boling. PO Box 29344 Indianapolis, IN 46229-0344 PH 317-894-2506

Love Token Society
Contact Sid Gale. P O Box 2351 Denham Springs. LA 70727 -
PH. 225-664-0718
email sidgale@cox net
Annual meeting ANA - local meeting FUN

Manatee Coin Club LM-801
Contact Fred Vandergriff 673 Cortez Plaza Bradenton FL 34207 941-756-0186 Meeting place Christian Reformed Church 4208 26th St W Bradenton
7PM 3rd Tuesday

(continued on page 23)

Fun Member Clubs
(continued from page 21)

Maryland State Numismatic Assoc.
PO Box 43263
Baltimore MD 21236-0663

Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta
PO Box 76090, Atlanta, GA 30358-1090
770-394-4103 - Ronald Wichman, Treas
email rlwichman@bellsouth.net
website www.mccatl.org

Missouri Numismatic Society
PO Box 410652, St Louis, Mo 63141-0652 Creve Coeur American Legion, 934 E Rue de la Banque. St. Louis, Mo. 4th Wednesday, except November.
info@missourinumismaticsociety.org.

National Silver Dollar Roundtable
PO Box 913, Bowie, MD 20715-0913

North Carolina Numismatic Assoc, Inc.
270 Sides Rd. Salisbury, NC 28146 PH: 704-209-3034

North Lake Coin and Currency Club
c/o Dwight Brown, 352-205-8536, 566 Dowling Circle, Lady Lake, FL 32159
Lady Community Building, 237 W. Guava, Lady Lake, FL 32159.
email: northlakecoinclub@gmail.com
6:00PM - 2nd Friday Monthly

Numismatic Bibliomania Society
Contact: David M. Sundman, Sec/Tres, PO Box 82, Littleton, NH 03561
Website: http://www.coinsbooks.org./
Meet at: ANA and FUN

The Greater Ocala Coin Club
Contact: Rich Selvar, PO Box 3091, Ocala, FL 34478-3091 - PH: 352-748-5225. VFW NE 36th Ave..
6:30PM - 4th Tuesday

Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc
Contact: Verne Walrafen, Secretary, 12000 Sunset Ridge Drive, Ozawkie, KS 66070
email: walfrafen@gmmnut.com
Annual meeting FUN

Palm Beach Coin Club
Contact Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466 - PH 561-964-8180 (M-F 9-5) West Palm Beach Garden Club, 4800 Dreher Trail North, W Palm Beach, FL33405 *7:00 PM - 2nd & 4th Wednesday*
email. swicer@comcast.net

Pensacola Numismatic Society, Inc
Contact. http://www.pensacolanumismativsociety.20m.com
Emerald Coast Coin Shop, 7141-A N.9th Ave. Pensacola.
7:00 PM - 3rd Thursday
email: pensacolacoin@att.net

Ridge Coin Club of Sebring
Box 1584 Tanglewood, Sebring, FL 33872
Contact: VP-Barry Radawiec, 863-382-8958

Saint Petersburg Coin Club LM - 376
c/o Robert W. 727-403-8662, PO Box 61201 St Petersburg, FL 33714. St Petersburg Community Church, 4501 30th Ave. North.
600 PM - 2nd Monday
email: robertwly@yahoo.com

Sarasota Coin Club LM-795
c/o Vic Skidmore 640 S. Washington #100. Sarasota, FL 34236-7130 Bank of America Community Room. 1237 Stickney Pt Rd.
7PM - 3rd Monday
email: tskidmore10@comcast.net

Silver Sands Coin Club
PO Box 543, Lynn Haven, FL 32444
Peoples First Corp Hdqtrs, 1022 W 23rd Street Panama City, FL
email: sak@knology.net
7:30 PM - 3rd Tuesday Monthly

So Called Dollar Coin Club
PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33266.
Contact: Tony Swicer PH: 561-964-8180.
email:swicer@comcast.net

Society for United States Commemorative Coins
Contact: Anthony Swiatek, PO Box 218, Manhasset, NY 11030

Society of Paper Money Collectors
335 Court St , Suite #149. Brooklyn, NY 11231

South Brevard Coin Club
The Peace Lutheran Church, 1801 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay. FL. 321-751-3647
7:00 PM 1st Wednesday Monthly

South Florida Coin Club
Coral Springs, FL

Southern Gold Society c/o David Crenshaw, P O Box 2235, Lawrenceville, GA 30046
Quarterly Meetings

Souvenir Card Collectors Society
P O Box 905
Loganville, FA 30052

Sunken Treasure Literature Club
Contact: David Crooks, PO Box 166 Clarendon Hills, IL 60514
emial: dcrooks@dcrooks.com

Tampa Bay Coin Club
c/o Ralph Samataro, PO Box 261623, Tampa, FL 33685-1623.American Legion Post #5, 3810 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Meetings: 2nd Thursday 7:00pm
email: rfee1@tampabay.rr.com

Tennessee State Numismatic Society LM - 802
Bourse: Gayle Pike, 901-327-1703
Box 11705, Memphis, TN 38111
email: pikegk@aol.com; website:www.tsns.org
Annual meeting: March show

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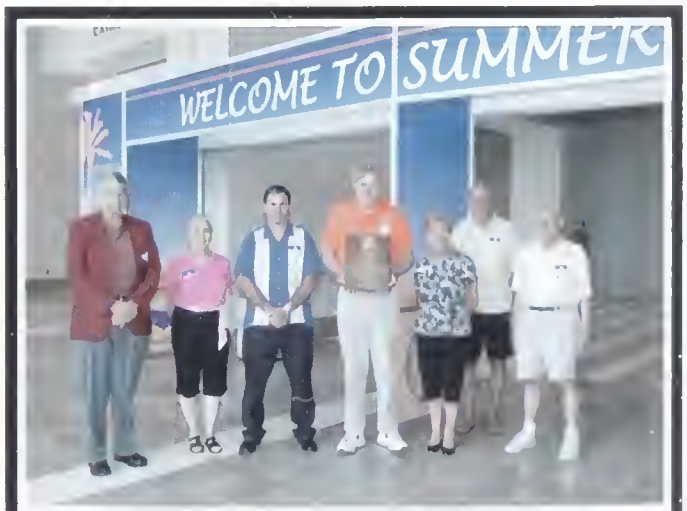

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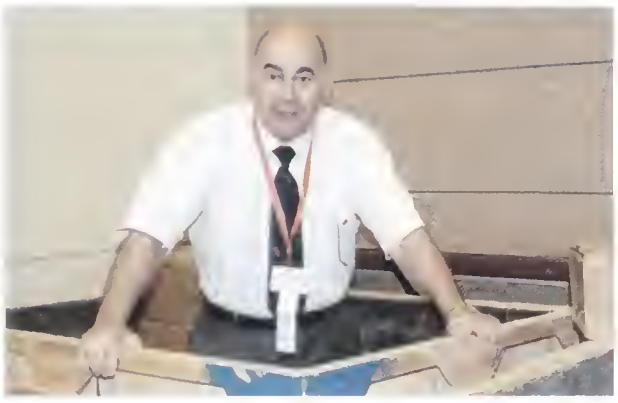

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Nancy Casey, Shirley Hays, and Glenda Hocker getting ready for the YN Program.

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A Type Set With Just One Design?

By Mark Benvenuto

A century ago, Queen Victoria may have been able to claim to be the person whose face was on the most coins ever minted. The British Empire used the monarchís face on the coins of Britain as well as the coinage of its many colonial possessions, which at the time could be found on just about every continent except Antarctica. If you look at all the different coins of the many nations of the world today, the humble Lincoln cent may have taken that claim from Queen Victoria. The number of Lincoln cents out there is probably in the trillions. But when you re-focus, and look at what single design graces the most coin denominations, neither Queen Victoria nor President Lincoln's images come quickly to mind. One to rival the queen for that honor may very well be Mr. Christian Gobrecht and his rather famous seated Liberty design.

The seated Liberty design was unveiled on different denominations of United States coins in the late 1830's, in most cases. The smallest of the seated Liberty coins are the half dimes, which first came out dated 1837. Seated Liberty dimes made their first public appearance that same year. Jumping up to seated Liberty quarters, it was 1838 that saw the first of these silver two bit pieces produced. The half dollars followed in 1839. And the biggest 'sister' of this clan, the seated Liberty dollar, actually led the way, with a limited number of pieces dated 1836. While five denominations is an impressive list for a single coin design, what sets the seated Liberty figure apart from all the others, at least in the centuries of United States coinage, is that it also appears on the remarkably short-lived twenty cent pieces of 1875 n 1878.

There are certainly some avid collectors (perhaps we should say rabid collectors) of seated Liberty coinage today. There is even a club devoted to the design. But for those of us desiring to put a toe into the metaphorical water, before jumping in head first, the way to look at seated Liberty coins might be to see what a type set collection could cost. Such an endeavor will land a person six coins, but give a good indicator of how eye catching this seated Lady Liberty is in several different sizes while at the same time giving a peek at what a collection of each denomination might cost.

The half dimes are the smallest original silver coin authorized by Congress in its original Mint Act. The silver three-cent pieces would eventually stake a claim to being the smallest of US silver coins, but they weren't on the scene before 1851. By 1837 though, when the seated Liberty half dime made its first appearance, it was the fifth design for our smallest silver denomination. The figure stayed with these small coins all the way up to 1873, when the denomination was retired, and ultimately was minted in the main facility in Philadelphia, as well as the branch Mints in New Orleans and San Francisco. There are a number of scarce years in the series, especially after the advent of the nickel, but even towards the end of the run, there are some years that capped out at over a million coins. Big mintage totals argue that there ought to be some affordable dates today.

Our logic seems to be borne out by the price guides. In the state of good, or G-4 (which really isn't that good at all), there are numerous seated Liberty half dimes listed at $20. Move up to fine, or F-12 condition, and the price climbs a bit to $35. If you are aching to spend $100 for a single one of these small, silver disks, you can get your hands on a piece in almost uncirculated, or AU-50 condition, and you have dozens of dates and mint marks from which to choose.

Moving up the denominational totem pole, the seated Liberty dime is the next piece upon which to focus. These coins had a longer run, from 1837 all the way up to 1891, when they were replaced by the Mr. Barber's Liberty head design. In that wide span of decades there are several very common dates, with many coming in at well over a million coins each. Among the most common are a handful of dates that top over ten million coins. That ought to make for some choices that are rather inexpensive, although experienced collectors will bet that none of the less expensive pieces are graced with 'S' or 'CC' mint marks.

One of those two bets would actually be wrong, and the surprise is that it's the bet about mint marks. As expected, the cost of a common seated Liberty dime isn't too high. The prices are $14 in G-4, $30 in F-12, and $100 in AU-50 when we are talking about common dates. The pleasant surprise is that the 1875-CC, the 1876-CC, and the 1877-CC are listed at the same prices in those grades, as are numerous of the 'S' coins in the latter decades of the series, at least as this is being written. To be fair, the three dates we just listed were years in which the Mint in Carson City, Nevada pounded out a torrent of dimes, with 4.5 million, 8.2 million, and 7.7 million produced for each of the three years we just mentioned. Still, it's nice to know that there are a few coins from this short-lived branch Mint that a collector of modest means can own today.

(continued on page 28)

A Type Set With Just One Design?

By Mark Benvenuto

(continued from page 27)

That good fortune doesn't extend to the twenty-cent pieces of the Carson City Mint, as the two dates which exist are quite scarce, and also quite expensive. If you are seeking to add this quirky, under-wanted denomination to your seated Liberty coinage, the only real choice you have is the 1875-S. This coin posts a total of 1.15 million coins, which is a landslide compared to the second place tally in the short series - 133,290 from Carson City that same year. Prices today for the 1875-S are going to run at or near: $125 in G-4, $175 in F-12, and $400 in AU-50. Curiously, the same grades of coin for the 1875-CC are $425, then $600, and finally $1,600. While that certainly constitutes sticker shock for many of us, each price is only 3 - 4 times more expensive than its 1875-S counterpart, even though they are more than ten times less common. Hmm, it appears we've found a sleeper.

Waking up to the next higher denomination, the quarter, we find rather quickly that this denomination has far less by way of common date coins than its smaller siblings. Oh, there are definitely common dates, such as the 1853, with 15.2 million coins to its total. But overall, there are many more years and date and mint mark combinations that do not get close to a million coins. What does this mean for adding a seated Liberty quarter to a type set?

The short answer is: nothing. Enough seated Liberty quarters must have been kept that their prices don't reflect much in terms of the most common versus many of the lesser minted coins. Using that 1853 as an example, it's a $25 coin in G-4, a $50 item in F-12, and a $350 expenditure in AU-50. All in all, not a super cheap coin, but not a super expensive one either. But look at the prices of the 1841-O, a decidedly less common coin, with a total mintage of 452,000 coins. Its prices, from good, through fine, to AU, are: $30, then $60, then $350. That's a pretty impressive set of prices when you realize the relative rarity. There are definitely others in the series that merit similar attention.

Moving to the seated Liberty half dollars, there are again plenty of dates that saw Mint figures in the millions. But we need to be a bit cautious. Collectors are always interested in big, silver coins. Half dollars and silver dollars have been favorites of the numismatic community for decades, and that may translate into higher than desired prices for any of our seated Liberty halves.

Let's look first at a very common seated Liberty half, the 1858-O. At 7.29 million coins, it isn't the single most common piece of the series. But it is an earlier date, and it certainly isn't rare or scarce. Prices are: $35 in G-4, $60 in F-12, and $300 in AU-50. As with our quarter prices, these are not dirt cheap, but they are not screamingly high either. Compare these prices to those of the 1841 though. The 1841 seated Liberty half is one of the earliest dates in the series, and was only coined to the tune of 310,000 pieces. They're not particularly rare, but are certainly less common than the 1858-Os that we just mentioned. Their prices? How about: $55 in G-4, $100 in F-12, and $450 in AU-50? Each of these is higher than those for the 1858-O, but not by much. It appears that we have some potential in the seated Liberty half dollars as well.

The last piece we want to add to a seated Liberty design type set will probably be the crown jewel of any such set. Let's hope though that this royal diadem doesn't cost the proverbial king's ransom.

A quick glance through any reference guide seems to indicate that there are simply a lot less seated Liberty dollars than there are just about any other denomination of the design. Like the quarters, there are plenty of lean years among these silver dollars. Actually, there are only two dates that rise above the million coin mark, the 1871 and 1872. It would make sense then to think that these two dates will command the lowest prices. Indeed, in G-4 they run $300, in F-12, they cost $400, and in AU-50, they are each about a $1,000 coin.

But wait - as they say on the late night commercials - there's more! A detailed look through any reputable price listing will show a person that there are several dates for which the prices hover right at or near the numbers we just gave. Some of them have considerably lower mintages. One example is the 1873, with only 293,600 to its tally. If you do some searching on your own, you will definitely find others. It appears then that there may be some under-valued seated Liberty dollars to add to the quarters and half dollars that fall in this '**sleepers**' category.

If you've never given any serious thought to seated Liberty coinage, perhaps now is the time. There are certainly plenty of them out there from which a collector can choose. Whether you like your seated figure of Liberty to be a mere 15.5 mm across - the diameter of the half dime - or the much larger 38.1 mm version sported on the dollar coin, or whether you like something in between, it's probably safe to say there is a seated Liberty coin for everyone. Good hunting.

Engraved Date or Punched in Date?
By BJ Neff

For years, the common thought in the numismatic community was that the date was changed from year to year by adding the new digits to the master die by punching those digits into that die by hand. This was supposedly the common practice for all the coins made in the United States during the19th century and into the 20th century.

However, before we explore the accuracy of this belief, we should consider how the date transition was made from year to year on the various denominations. There were two methods that the Mint may have used in the changing of the dates The first method was taking the previous year's master hub and abrading the last two digits (there is also evidence that at times only the last digit was abraded). That hub would then make a master die with the missing digits, which were then added to the newly made die. The other method, which is similar, took a master hub that did not have the last two digits and then made a master die from that. Again, the missing digits were added to the master die. The only difference between the two methods was the master hub. The mint may have used one to three master hubs without the last two digits over and over again.

This practice saved a large amount of time. If a galvano were used for each different year, the transfer of imagery through a reduction lathe could have taken up to four days for each transfer. The transferring of designs was much more easily accomplished by the making of a new master die from an existing master hub. This was far less time consuming and more precise in the transferring of that design. However, even this method of transfer had its faults. Over time, the master hub begins to spread and lose the fine details of the design from overuse. This was most apparent in the later part of the sixties on the Lincoln cent with its almost featureless Lincoln bust. This was corrected by introducing a new obverse galvano in the year 1969 for the Lincoln cent.

We can now delve into whether these digits were engraved or punched into that master die. For this study, I selected the coins from the decade of the1940's, for it seemed that those dates went through the most changes, especially the Lincoln cent.

The first fact to consider is that the dates on the cent, the nickel, the dime, the quarter, and the half dollar (there was no business strike dollar in this period) were of different sizes. The largest date was the quarter, followed by the nickel, the half dollar, the cent, and the dime. So, that would have required the Mint to have a set of punches for each denomination, or 10 different punches for each year. Fewer punches would be required if the same punch was used for the third digit during that decade or for any year that had the same last two digits. While the various denominations of that decade were apt to keep the same style third digit, the Lincoln cent saw 11 different font changes to numeral "4", two occurring in 1949. In this particular year a sharp top 4 was put over a blunt top four on three San Francisco dies used to mint Lincoln cents. [See CONECA Files DDO-01, 002 and 003 plus Coppercoins 1949S-1DO-001, 002 and 003]

So, a little math would show that the Mint was required to have had at least 61 digit punches for the decade beginning in 1940 and at least the same number of digit punches for other decades. This also does not take into account the dates that were used on the foreign dies made by the U. S. Mint for other countries or our own commemorative coins (Iowa Statehood and the Booker T. Washington series). In other words, the master engraver's work bench would cluttered with various size digit punches for the various denominations and years. It would seem with that many punches around there should have been a mistake or two made on the date and yet none of been encountered. (cont. on page 30)

Engraved Date or Punched in Date?
By BJ Neff

(continued from page 29)

Another consideration is the cost in making that digital punch, which was made basically the same way a coin die was made. Would it be cost efficient to use that punch just one time and then discard it? That would mean, 11 different punches were made for the Lincoln cent during the 1940 decade, used once, and then not used again. Would the Mint be that wasteful? This would also be contrary to the way the Mint used the mint mark punches for numerous working dies. Sometimes these punches were used for more than one year before wearing out and eventually being destroyed.

While the above facts do not conclusively determine how the digits were placed on the master die, the information present below clarifies the method used for this process.

I have selected the year 1944 to show that the digits were engraved into the master die and not punched-in as previously thought. In the photographs presented below, compare the four digits in each pair to one another. While at a distance they appear to be the same, the macro photos show telling differences.

The first inset shows the date on a dime. The most obvious difference is the length of the arm; numeral "4" on the left has a shorter arm. The second inset is that of the cent. This particular year had master die doubling on the date, so it is hard to determine if there is any difference between the two digits. The third inset shows the date on a nickel. Again, like the dime, the left arm is shorter. Also, there is a marked difference between the foot serifs. The fourth inset is the half dollar. There is little similarity between these two four digits, apart from sharing the same font. The fifth inset is that of the quarter, which has a thicker arm on the right digit. These are just the easiest differences to see. A careful study of these digits will show many more divergences. One other oddity that should be mentioned is the possible use of two styles of numeral "4" on the half dollar for this year. If you look closely where the horizontal bar meets the diagonal bar on the four, it appears to have a blunt end over a sharp end junction.

While the year 1944 does show the differences between the last two digits more dramatically than any other similar year (1911, 1922, 1933, 1955, etc.), these other years do have marked differences as well. Such evidence can only lead to the conclusion that the missing digits were hand engraved into each denomination's master die, for it would be utter folly to use two different punches for the same digit.

Dr. James Wiles, noted 20th century variety expert has commented on this subject.

"As to the engraving of the master dies, I am completely onboard with this developing theory. I talked with David Lange last year at the ANA summer seminar and he was of the opinion that it was fact, not theory. My study of the Lincoln cent obverse designs would lend a lot of credence to that supposition. There are just too many changes from year to year (including lettering) to think that the date was punched. It makes much more sense that they would engrave the date along with any other changes necessary in the master die.

I have removed the 1956-D, DDO-001(Lincoln cent) from the CONECA files and most of the MDO listings as well, as a result of this "discovery." Though I suppose one could make an argument that "engraving doubling" is a form of hub doubling, I think that would stretch the definition rather thin, besides the fact that such doubling is a lot more common than we had thought. There are 41 known obverse designs for the Lincoln cent. Many of them have some type of "engraving doubling." If you put together a date/mint set then you have an "engraving doubling" set as well."

(continued on page 31)

Engraved Date or Punched in Date?
By BJ Neff

(continued from page 30)

What will be the impact of this new paradigm on the numismatic community? First, it has solved one of those small mysteries that have nagged many numismatists as to what exactly did happen in those past years. Secondly as Dr Wiles pointed out, it will change some of the variety listings in associated files. Other than that, we now have a clearer picture of the transference of design from one year to another on the master dies used for the past denominations

The last question to answer is "when did this practice begin?" We can look back to the year 1909 for the possible answer Oddly enough, the Indian Head penny of 1908 was the last year for a repunched date or a misplaced date in the cent series. The 1909 Indian Head cent did not have such faults. So, the year 1909, starting with the Indian Head cent for that year, may very well have been the starting point for engraving the date into the master die.

If we were to take a comparison of the 1907, 1908 and the 1909 Indian Head Penny, we can see the changes made, especially between the 1908 and the 1909 date. If you will notice that the 9 digit is joined between the tail and the loop in the 1908. The 1909 it is not joined in that area. Also note that the 1 digit is different. That would indicate that either a new punch was used or the date was engraved into the master die. If you will, compare the two 9 digits in the 1909 IHP and see that they are different.

I would like to thank CONECA Members Bob Piazza (BOD) and Jason Cuvelier for some of the pictures used and again Bob P. for information that he provided. I would also like to thank Mike Diamond for his help.

I thank you for reading this article and above all else, enjoy the hobby.

Robert (BJ) Neff; NLG

The End

North Lake Coin and Currency Club

The North Lake Coin and Currency Club celebrated it's First Anniversary on June 12, 2009. Two new members were welcomed into the club with seven members renewing their membership. After the normal business function, a very open discussion was held on purchasing coins and curency from unknown sources. Cake and coffee followed. A raffle was conducted along with a 50/50 drawing. An auction closed out the meeting.

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Realized: $51,750
HA.com/1127-2002

Lot 1415:
1879 $4 Flowing Hair, Judd-1635
PR65 Cameo NGC
Realized: $166,750
HA.com/1127-2056

Lot 1982:
1860-O $20
AU58 PCGS
Realized $69,000
HA.com/1127-4072

Lot 1164
1915-S Panama-Pacific
$50 Octagonal
MS62 PCGS
Realized $69,000
HA.com/1127-157001

Lot 1976:
1859-O $20
AU58 PCGS
Realized: $71,875
HA.com/1127-1064

Lot 1506:
1848-C $5
MS64 PCGS CAC
Realized $57,500
HA.com/1127-99008

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Club Notes

Tony Swicer · FUN Club Liaison
PO Box 5823. ··· Lake Worth, Fl 33466
561-964-8180, M-F, 9-5
email: swicer@comcast.net
ANA Glenn Smedley Award winner 2007
2007 NLG Award Winner for Best Column

This years FUN Coin Club of the Year went to the **Palm Beach Coin Club.** They received a big plaque, a Life Membership in FUN, and $200 at Summer FUN. Central Florida Coin Club was a close second.

Ancient City Coin Club- discussed Chinese Counterfeits and had a program on die varieties of the new Lincoln Cents. 2010 Red Books were $5 for club members.

Brandon Coin Club- had a program on a Puerto Rico medal designed by Charles Barber and a program on "The Background and Varieties of $20 St. Gaudens" by Bill Jones.

Central Florida Coin Club- had Ray Herz talk about "Washington Quarters" and a program on Eritea, Manchuria, Saarland, and Greenland history and coins by Bob Wollnik. Bj Neff spoke on "Errors on the New Cents".

Ft. Lauderdale Coin Club- show and club meeting are in Plantation at the Volunteer Park, 12050 W. Sunrise Blvd., near the Sawgrass Mall.

Ft. Myers/ Cape Coral Coin Club- President Gary Lewis writes, Why not invest in 1000 business cards at $40. Put your club name, meeting place & time, and contact phone number on the card. "Give it a try and I'm sure you will be happy with the results", says Gary.

Greater Jacksonville Coin Club- had a program on "Type Coin Collecting" by Mark Trout. The club had a Super Auction with 161 lots bringing $3385. Topical coins of the month were World War II coins and currency.

North Lake Coin & Currency Club- had a program on "The Gold Fever", The first major gold rush in the United States. The club celebrated its first anniversary in June. The program was "Rare Coin Investment Fraud".

Palm Beach Coin Club- had retired US Mint Engraver Jim Ferrell speak about his years at the Mint. Mr. Ferrell engraved 5 state quarters and the Thomas Jefferson Dollar to name a few. Tony Swicer gave a program on "Alaska, Gold Mining, Oil, and Tourism" The club had 36 volunteers at Summer FUN.

Sarasota Coin Club- Had David Vagi speak on "Collecting and Grading Ancients" Ben Todd told "What's Hot and What's Not". Ben also told about his trips to Central States in Cincinnati and The Atlanta Show.

South Brevard Coin Club- had a picnic in May, Quarter Grading in June, and " The History of Nickels from Shield to Buffalo". A club member showed "Boats on Coins, Commemoratives, and other Collectibles"

Titusville Coin Club- had Ray Herz illustrate the hub progression of the Washington Quarters and a regular program on Washington Quarters.

Treasure Coast Coin Club- had a program on "Deep Prooflike Morgan Dollars" by Mike Powley and a program on "Peace Dollars, Essential Information for Collectors" by Ferd Wirth. Eric Hogan gave a program on "Ship Wreck & Treasure Coins".

West Hernando Coin Club- will have a talk on "Encased Coins" by john Cea, and had a "Coin Trivia" program by Art Pinto

Tony S.

YN's Have FUN

Young Numismatists

• • • Tony Bonaro • • •
F.U.N. Director
t_bonaro@swsignal.com

So far the summer has been terrific. It started with a great show in Jacksonville, Florida (GJCC) where we had 91 scouts participate in the Coin Collecting merit badge. It was a lot of fun and we utilized the new Whitman Boy Scout Coin Collecting merit badge folder. If you are a scout and are working on a coin collecting merit badge, the folder is a must You will really like it.

Our Summer FUN in West Palm Beach was a spectacular hit. The morning started with 64 YN's participating in our program on President Abe Lincoln. We had games, quizzes and a presentation on Lincoln. In the afternoon there were 49 Scouts attending the Coin Collecting Merit Badge class. Some for the second time because they liked the program last year. Thanks to everyone who came, I hope you had a good time.

I had the opportunity to attend the Summer Seminars at Colorado Springs. Every YN should think about attending the seminars. This is a great opportunity to meet other YN's from all over the country and share your common interests. There are scholarships available from the American Numismatic Association, Florida United Numismatists and many local clubs. I would encourage all of the FUN YN's (must be 13 years old) to submit an application for the scholarship. The FUN Scholarship includes air travel and room and board. Tell your parents that they can also apply for a scholarship and you can go together.

I would like to thank the following dealers and individuals whose donations helped to make our YN program the best in the nation.

Tom Cederlind
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There are also many others who donated items for the YN program who wished to remain anonymous

(continued on page 36)

YN's Have FUN

Young Numismatists

(continued from page 35)

YN Trivia Question of the Quarter

Here s a chance to add a 2009 Nickel, Dime, Half Dollar and Sac Mint Proof Set to your collection. Correction: In our last issue of FUN TOPICS the prize was listed as a 2009 Quarter Set, it should have read 2009 Presidential Proof Set. Sorry my fault.

This coin is probably one of the most famous and well known coins of the world. It was first minted in 1740 and continues to be minted today without change to obverse or reverse. Regardless of the year minted (even today) it always has the same date. What is the name of the coin and what is the date on the coin.

Send the correct answer to me: t.bonaro@xorail.com by October 31, 2009.

Check your change. You never know what you will find.

Tony B.

Fort Lauderdale Coin Club's Third Sunday Coin Show Made It's Move

Volunteer Park Community Center
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Plantation, FL

Shown here L-R, Coin dealer Keith Brown shows a set of 120 year old Silver dollars. Tom Defina President Coin Club, Ray Semaska, Council woman Sharon Uria, and former councilman Bruce Edwards.

In 1955 a group of active coin collectors and dealers organized the Fort Lauderdale Coin Club. Incorporated in 1956 as a Non Profit Corporation in the State of Florida. Today the club is one of the most active coin clubs in South Florida, over 250 members. The monthly coin and stamp shows are very busy. They have outgrown their show location. Their New Venue will allow them to encompass more than 85 dealers up from their regular 60. For more information concerning their show, contact: Bourse chairman: Joe Marshall at 954-802-4967 or email at magikj48@yahoo.com.

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Walking Liberty Half Dollars

By Ginger Rapsus

The most beautiful silver coin issued by the United States is considered to be the Walking Liberty half dollar. Minted from 1916 to 1947, the design is familiar to baby boomers, older people and newer collectors alike.

Designed by Adolph A. Weinman, designer of the Mercury dime, this half dollar shows the last depiction of Liberty on a circulating United States coin. The coins were struck at Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco. This lovely coin, a favorite with collectors, can be collected a few different ways; pursuing a set can keep you busy for years.

Walkers, as they are called, were first minted in 1916. The coins were made at all three mints, and the mintmark appeared on the obverse, below the motto "In God We Trust." The mintmark also appeared on the obverse in 1917 ; later in the year, it was moved to the reverse, on the lower left. Those who only want coins dated 1917 have six different half dollars to save from that year!

The 1916 San Francisco issue is one of the four better dates in the series. The other three are the 1921 coins. 1921 was a good year for scarce and rare coins, and the half dollar is certainly a part of that.

Another better date is the 1938-D. The mintage is lower than other half dollars of the time. An interesting date is the 1933, as only half dollars and cents were made that year. The coin with the lowest mintage is the 1921-D, with only 208,000 struck. The highest mintage came in 1943, the Philadelphia Mint issue, with more than 53 million struck. This writer recalls receiving one in change as a beginning collector, in 1966 -- the earliest date half dollar I ever got in change!

Walkers can be assembled into complete sets, one of each date and mintmark. The three 1921 coins and the 1916-S are scarce, and a high condition coin can be quite expensive, but there are no real stoppers in this set. A collector can also build a short set, one of each date and minmark from 1941-1947. Such a collection in higher grade is a lovely set to view. Some years ago, I assemled such a set in one fell swoop, from a local coin shop that had a number of AU silver coins from the 1940's on sale at specail prices. I bought a blue Whitman folder, too, to house the set.

A short set may be a good idea for someone who may be interested in this series, but is not sure if he can afford an entire set, and wants to get a feel for what it's like to collect Walkers. Maybe after acquiring a few of these coins, the collector will fall in love with the series and want to collect them all.

A set of one of each date, 1916 to 1947, can make a nice collection. If you wish to have a beautiful collection without a big cash outlay, a date set will do fine.

Those who appreciate proof coins can save one of each proof issue, 1936-1942. The coins struck in proof show off the design in all its beauty, and can be especially pretty when housed in a custom-made plasticv holder, if the coins are not slabbed. Some years ago, I recall hearing of uncirculated coins being cleaned with jewelry polish, to give a bright, proof-like appearance. Do not be fooled by this. Purchase professionally graded and slabbed coins, or better yet, become familiar with the real thing. Look at real proof Walkers, their proof surfaces and srong strikes, and you will see the difference between proofs and highly polished circulation coins.

Liberty Walking Liberty half dollars with a strong strike and lustrous surfaces are worth more than the average pieces. Some dates, such as 1941-S, are notorious for weak strikes.

(Continued on page 40)

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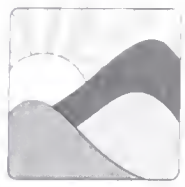

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MEMBER

Walking Liberty Half Dollars

By Ginger Rapsus

(continued from page 38)

Recently, I have seen quite a few complete, or nearly complete, sets of Walkers offered at coin shops and conventions. One set, consisting of well-circulated coins, was complete, and could be a good buy for a collector who is just getting interested in this series. Worn coins can be upgraded, or perhaps an entire new set can be assembled. Another set, lacking two of the 1921 coins, was in better grade, with many of the later dates in Extremely Fine or AU condition. Still another set, spotted at a major convention, was complete, and had an especially nice 1916 to lead off the set -- a favorite coin, since it was the first year of issue. Purchasing a complete set is a good way to start an interest in a particular set of coins. Individual coins can be studied; certain pieces can always be upgraded; and you can always build a number of sets, if you really love the series.

The lovely Walking Liberty design -- the obverse, anyway -- was brought back in 1986, when the first silver eagles were struck. The silver eagles have been released each year since then. Specialists in Walkers may want to build a set of modern silver eagles, to compliment the coin with the original Walking Liberty design. These one-ounce bullion pieces have been made at Philadelphia, San Francisco, and West Point. These are proof specimens available; some 2006 pieces were made in so-called "reverse proof," where the fields are frosted and the devices are mirror-like.

Collectors with a historical bent (and unlimited funds for coins) can check out the many pattern coins of 1916 with the Walking Liberty design. The patterns look a lot like the regular issue coins, but there are differences, such as the placement of the mottos, the size of the date, and other, more subtle differences. These patterns are very rare and expensive; a specialist desiring one of these pieces will probably have to bid, and bid liberally, at a major auction. It helps to observe every piece that passes through your hands. I have heard of one of these patterns turning up in circulation in the 1950s, and one of the patterns illustrated in a reference book appears quite worn.

There are a few varieties in this series for the sharp-eyed collector, including a double-die reverse on some 1946 coins, large and small mintmark varieties on 1928-S, 1934-D and 1942-S. Some 1941 proofs lack the designer's initials. Perhaps there are other varieties waiting to be discovered by a specialist.

A collector interested in Walking Liberty half dollars can collect a complete set, a date set, a proof collecion, or all of the above. This beautiful coin has been a favorite with collectors for years, and will remain a favorite for years to come.

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President's Message

By Bob Hurst

(Continued from page 4)

A few years ago, FUN Director and Club Liaison **Tony Swicer** wanted to develop a "FUN Club of the Year program The requirements for winning this award are quite entailed. Last year at Summer FUN 2008, I gave the award to the Greater Jacksonville Coin Club and they forever will be known as the first recipient of this award. At Summer FUN 2009, I was honored to give the award to the **Palm Beach Coin Club**. To accept the award was the President of the PBCC Tony Swicer. Not only is Tony the Vice President of FUN now, but also has been the President of the PBCC for over 25 years Incredible!! Congratulations to the PBCC for your hard work in the competition for this award. Your win was well deserved.

Jeanne Shepard FUN's office manager and a FUN Director provided outstanding support to our convention coordinator and myself. Jeanne made sure that everything that was needed to run the show office properly was taken care of FUN is very fortunate to have such a personable front person who meets everyone who has business in the office and keeps us on schedule.

Tim Rounds, FUN's videographer attended the convention on his own to make sure that nothing was missed for historical purposes. Tim and his son Greg walked the floor and took some video so that some day in the future, when FUN is celebrating its 75th or 100th birthday, those who follow us will be able to see what happened at Summer FUN 2009.

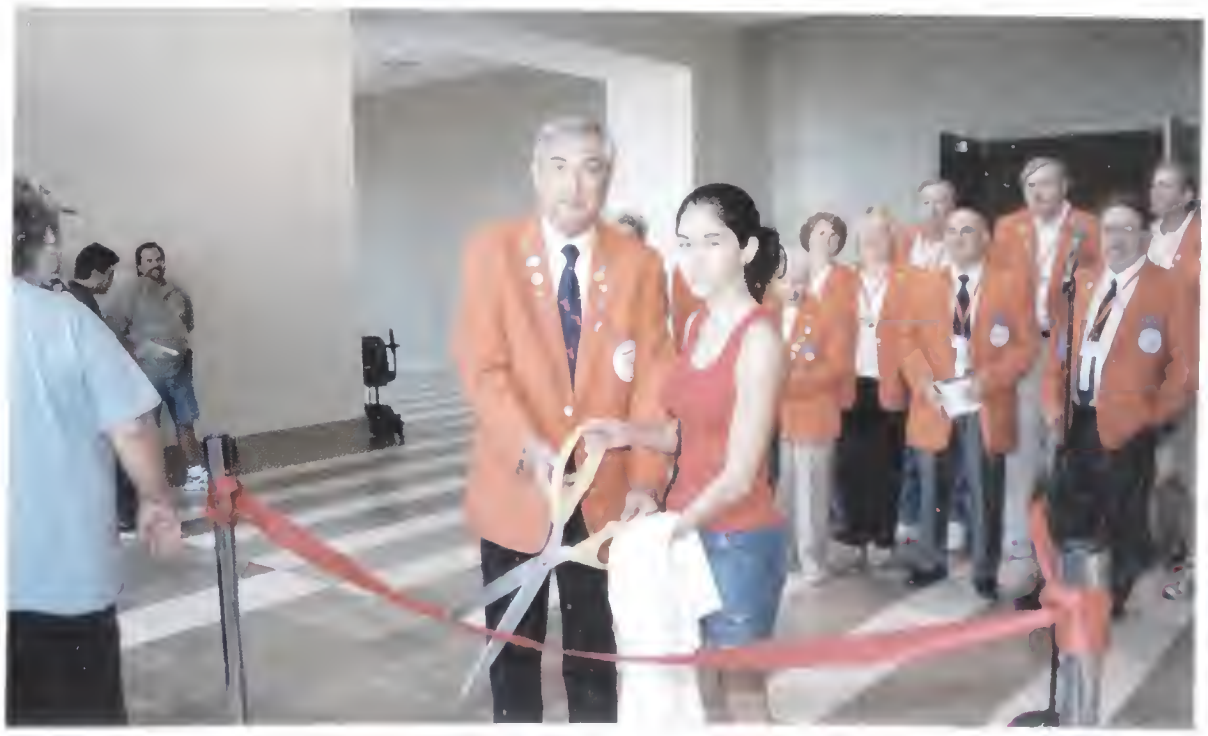
Heritage Auction Galleries topped $9 million in their Summer FUN 2009 auction. Heritage has always had great auctions in combination with FUN Conventions. I think that the combination of FUN and Heritage is UNBEATABLE and we are proud to have Heritage as FUN's official auction company.

After writing about everyone who helped out and made this convention such a success, I must now turn your attention to **Cindy Wibker**, FUN's Convention Coordinator. After Summer FUN 2007, I mentioned that Cindy was headed for Sainthood. However, I thought that it took three miracles. Well, Summer FUN 2009 (our third installment) is complete and I believe that it is time to put Cindy in for that title. She has performed her job in a most professional manner, with pride and with each and every one of you in mind. Not only is she concerned with the dealers, but the staff, the public and for all those who have anything to do with the success of FUN. Cindy and I have discussed many topics over the years that I have been associated with FUN and I can tell you without a single doubt, her heart, mind and soul belong to FUN. **Thank you Cindy for all of your hard work on behalf of FUN and all the people who attend and support this great organization's conventions.**

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer. Stay safe and I hope to see all of you in January at the Greatest Numismatic Convention on Earth – FUN!

Kindest Regards,

Bob



Alexa Alahouzos helps Bob Hurst,
FUN President cut the ribbon

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Small Currency	6 5/8 X 2 7/8	22 75	42 50	190 00	360.00
Large Currency	7 7/8 X 3 1/2	26 75	48 00	226 00	410 00
Auction	9 X 3 3/4	26 75	48 00	226 00	410.00
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Checks	9 5/8 X 4 1/4	32 00	58 00	265 00	465.00

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Letter to the Editor ••• THANK YOU FUN

We want to thank the Florida United Numismatists for setting up a table for the American Numismatic Association at their SUMMERFUN Convention held in West Palm Beach, FL on July 9-11, 2009. We were able to sign up over 30 new members for the Association. Thanks again and we will look forward to seeing you at next years SummerFUN to be held at the same location on July 8-10, 2010. Yours in Numismatics, Gary Lewis, John and Nancy Wilson.

HERITAGE HA.com
Auction Galleries

Summer FUN in Palm Beach nets $9 million

The most popular gold pattern of all time, the 1879 $4 stella — or rather a pair of them — led the way at Heritage Auction Galleries' $9 million Summer FUN auction in Palm Beach, Fla., July 9-12.

"We're quite pleased with the results," said Greg Rohan. "Collectors responded well to the fine American coinage we offered."

The auction also showed that the demand for quality numismatic offerings continues to be strong with erudite collectors, as evidenced by the strong through rate and the high number of participants.

As usual, our through rate was 20-30% higher than recent auctions conducted by our major competitors. A full 85% of the value offered in the Summer FUN auction found new homes — and 91% by total number of lots. Then, even though this was our smallest U.S. Coin Signature auction of the year, we still had 3,401 bidders. That says a lot about our customers and our ability to find buyers for a wide range of numismatic items.

The two Judd-1635 1879 Flowing Hair Gold stellas were a single grade point apart, one a PR64 Cameo and the other a PR65 Cameo, and the lots brought similar sums: The PR65 Cameo example brought $166,750, while the runner-up checked in at $155,250. All prices include 15% Buyer's Premium.

The enduring popularity of the Morgan dollar was also on display in Palm Beach, as a rare 1886-O MS65 PCGS example — one of only five known Gem specimens of this New Orleans issue — kept pace with the top two lots by bringing in $149,500 when all was said and done.

"The 1886-O Morgan Dollar comes from a very exclusive fraternity indeed," said Rohan. "The landmark offering of this example may well represent one of the few appearances of this rare Gem issue in our lifetimes."

ICTA UPDATE

Diane Piret • ICTA Industry Affairs Director
PO BOX 316 ••• Belle Chasse, LA 70037
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2003 NLG Award- Small Publications Best Column

THE LATEST CASH REPORTING/AML UPDATES

As you may already know, I wrote a Special Report for the Coin Dealer Newsletter (CDN June, 2009, Monthly Summary) entitled "IRS Audits Reveal Common Cash Reporting / AML Mistakes Dealers Make". The article outlined 10 of the most common mistakes dealers make in 8300/ Anti-Money Laundering (AML) compliance. We've received quite a few phone calls about this article, often from those who suddenly realized they were, indeed, making some of these mistakes. [If you missed the article, it is posted the ICTA website in the restricted Members Only section under Special Reports.]

Just about every day I get calls with questions on the Cash Reporting and USA PATRIOT Act regulations that apply to our industry. Sometimes these questions reveal OTHER mistakes and misunderstandings. Since the CDN article appeared, there are a couple more things that came to light.

One dealer recently mentioned his erroneous belief that checking the "suspicious" box on an 8300 was the same thing as a SAR. A serious error.

A Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) is NOT an 8300 with the "Suspicious Activity" box checked

As you know, the IRS/FinCEN form 8300 is the form you use to report cash transactions over $10,000 (in a single transaction or a series of related transactions.) A SAR (Suspicious Activity Report) is a special form (FinCEN Form #109) that Money Services Businesses (MSBs) use at times as required of that industry by law. Coin dealers may file a SAR (but are not required to) using this form #109 under certain circumstances. However, filing a SAR is a very serious matter and pretty much guarantees that the IRS will review the transaction closely.

A SAR should never be filed just so that you "feel more comfortable" about conducting a large cash trade. If you have any concerns that there is illegal activity tainting the transaction, your best option may be to just refuse the business.

What is Cash?

The question was whether American Eagle 1 Ounce Gold Coins are cash for purposes of filing IRS/FinCEN Form 8300.

It would seem logical that since these coins are indeed coins, i.e., are legal tender, and therefore are monetized, that their $50 face value would be considered cash. Technically you could even spend them at your grocery store at their face value. In other words, legal tender = money. Money = cash. So, he surmised, if he purchased (received) over $10,000 face value (over 200 coins), he'd have to file an 8300. Wrong

(continued on page 46)

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ICTA UPDATE

(Continued from page 44)

Even though these gold coins are legal tender, they are NOT considered cash for filing form 8300.

It's a simple matter of what the regulations define as cash. As of February 3, 1992, cash for purposes of 8300 reporting is defined as:

a. "The coin and currency of the United States or of any other country which circulate in and are customarily used and accepted as money in the country in which issued, and

b. "A cashier's check (by whatever name called, including 'treasurer's check' and 'bank check'), bank draft, traveler's check, or money order having a face value of not more than $10,000(continued from page 44)

We haven't had gold coins circulating as regular coinage in daily commerce since the 1930's. Clearly coins made of gold do not "circulate in" nor are they "customarily used and accepted as money" in today's world. (ICTA members also have a letter in their Cash Reporting Kit from the IRS making this clear.) They do not fall within the definition of "cash" for this purpose.

By now, most people are aware that large sums of cash require reporting. Many dealers have adopted a "No Cash" policy in order to avoid the "hassle" of this paperwork and "stay off the IRS' radar." Unfortunately, this sometimes means they are turning away legitimate business for no real reason. Cash is legal—in fact, the government knows that our industry has legitimate reason for accepting large amounts of cash and they expect coin dealers to routinely file 8300s. A coin dealer who does NOT file 8300s is more likely to wind up on IRS' radar. An 8300 is easy to fill out—it's really not a big deal.

Bank Deposits

One dealer told me his bank teller told him to keep his cash deposits under $10,000 so that she wouldn't have to file a form. She should lose her job. She perhaps could even be prosecuted. She was instructing him to do something illegal.

Structuring transactions—which includes bank deposits—to prevent a form from being filed is illegal. A felony. Don't ever do it. If you have over $10,000 in cash to deposit, whether from one transaction or several transactions with different customers, it's not important to you whether or not the bank will file a form.

For more information about ICTA go to our website at www.ictaonline.org. Or call **410-626-7005 or 504-392-0023**. ICTA is a non-profit trade association that represents the interests of the rare coin, currency and precious metals community. ICTA is supported by membership dues and donations.

Diane

Dirhams, Dinars, Riyals Feature In Middle Eastern Exploration

By Don Allen

Opportunistic!

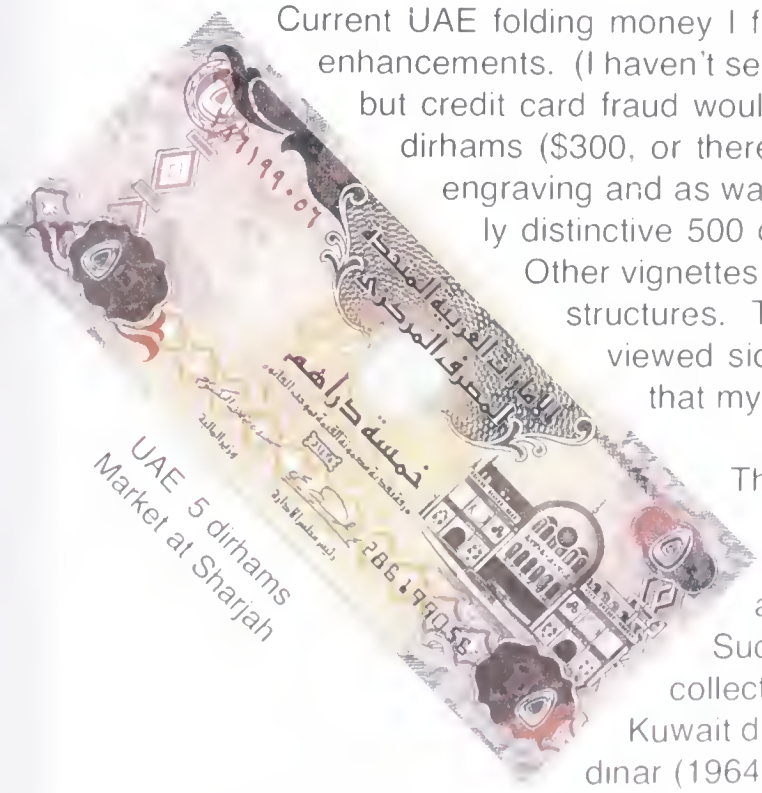
That single word summarizes my sixty-plus years of numismatic -- primarily paper money -- study and acuisition. One can't collect everything, but when opportunity knocks, you could do worse than to recapture the thrill of old by "opening up" a new field.

UAE 20 Dirhams - reverse
The dhow Sama'a, a familiar sight in Dubai waters

Thirty years ago, on an unexpected but most welcome jaunt to Miami Beach, I had been delighted to do just that. Uncle Sam had invited me to address an interstate education gathering, and had sent a plane ticket. Given a few hours for "coin" hunting, I had chanced upon a store-front Latin American money changer, who most obligingly had permitted me to leaf through the stock in trade... fine holdings of well-worn folding money (the real thing!) from which I could select a splentid assortment of national currencies with lots of zeros. These I would add to my 1950's collection of South American type notes, obtained back home as foreign exchange. I still have the Miami receipt, in the princely amount of $1.61.

Consider it not "investment" but numismatic education, in a particularly enjoyable and down-to-earth form.

Much more recently -- this sort of thing does repeat itself -- similar collecting interests were to propel me across the Arabian Dessert, Dubai to Au Dhabi, by minibus, for an arranged meeting with a central bank officer in the United Arab Emirates national capital. The dialogue was important. As well, crisp notes (seldom encountered in active circulation) were received in exchange for a like sum in well-worn current bills . . . at what turned out to have been a most fortuitous time. The note issue, I was reliably informed, quite possibly would be short-lived, a Euro-like successor having been all but waiting in the wings.



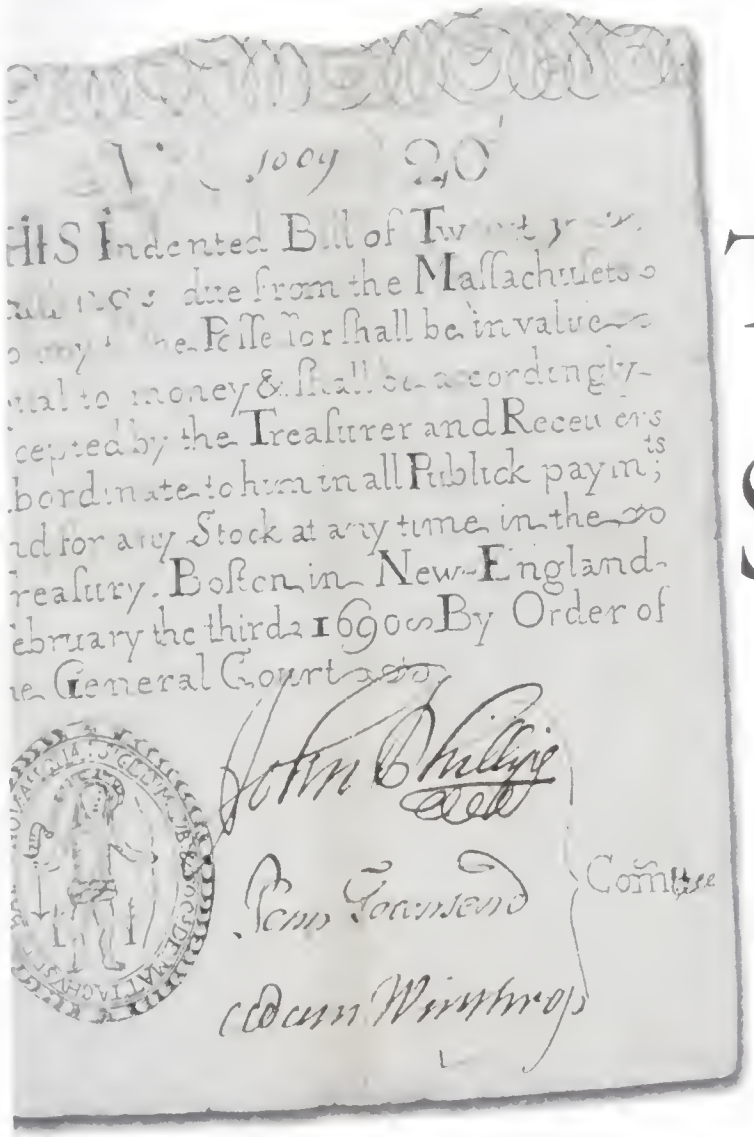
UAE 5 dirhams
Market at Sharjah

Current UAE folding money I find distinctly attractive, building upon a succession of anticounterfeiting enhancements. (I haven't sensed note counterfeiting to have been a major concern at merchant level, but credit card fraud would seem to be.) All eight note values, 5 dirhams through the lofty 1000 dirhams ($300, or thereabouts), show a fierce falcon, something of a national bird of prey, as engraving and as watermark. He rates a head and shoulders protrait on the face of the highly distinctive 500 dirhams, a "big bull" that I'd had no trouble "cashing" in a grocey store. Other vignettes include city and coastal scenes, and indigenous flora, fauna, and historic structures. The 50 dirhams features the oryx, a two-horned anteloope which, when viewed sideways, resembles the unicorn, and may have suggested or reinforced that mythical image.

The Abu Dhabi bank visit had been distinctly well timed, for (front-page news!) a United Arabic currency for some or all of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and Bahrain, fiscally stable Gulf states, has been under active consideration, and is known to be regarded favorably by the UAE. Such currency innovation could render obsolete and increasingly tough to collect such present monetary units as the Saudi Arabian riyal (since 1961), Kuwait dinar (also since 1961), Oman rial (1970), Qatar riyal (1973), and Bahrain dinar (1964).

The United Arab Emirates, as a nation, dates from 1971, the political union of seven venerable sheikhdoms, traditional "trucial states." The region has a lengthly and colordul history -- and pre-history -- of settlement, trading, and yes, piracy on the high seas. The locating of immense oil reserves, much of it underwater, dates from 1958-1960. With a tremendous inflow of investment capital, UAE and other area governments seek and support economic diversification, with highly evident initial success.

(continued on page 49)



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Regular Life Junior

Proposer: _____
Or reference, example: another numismatic organization to which you belong.

Dirhams, Dinars, Riyals Feature In Middle Eastern Exploration

By Don Allen

(continued on page 47)

Traditional money changers would haave reached for weighing scales, and dealt in "hard money," meticulously scrutinized precious metals. (I felt greatly privileged to linger over holdings of such ageless coinage in the historical museum of the oasis community of Al Ain.) Times do change, yet the attractive folding money, and its precursor issues (Indian "Gulf rupees, Saudi Arabian "pilgrim receipts") date back 40 to 50 years. UAE Currency Board dirhams of 1973, now demonitized (but touch to find), were replaced by Central Bank dirhams, from 1982. Apart from security and related enhancements, such 1982 designs, as of now, are little changed.

UAE 20 Dirhams - obverse
Dubai Creek Gold and Yacht Club. Its architecture suggesting a dhow

At a hole-in-the-wall tourist shop at the edge of Dubai's world-famous gold souk, I did acquire, for a pittance, a well-worn Currency Board 10 dirhams, which I treasure. Also on view in their display case was a generous handful of 19th-century United States "silver dollars," including an 1804." It may still be there -- hope springs eternal! -- should you choose to drop in.

I've done my homework rather thoroughly on Emirati and related paper money. Intriguing stuff! I'd encourage you to avail yourself of such "growth" opporunities. What I've learned, in greater depth, I hope to share through Paper Money, the Society of Paper Money Collectors' outstanding six-a-year publication. But for FUN friends, I take pleasure in illustrating some collectible UAE note acquisitions that I particularly enjoy. The end

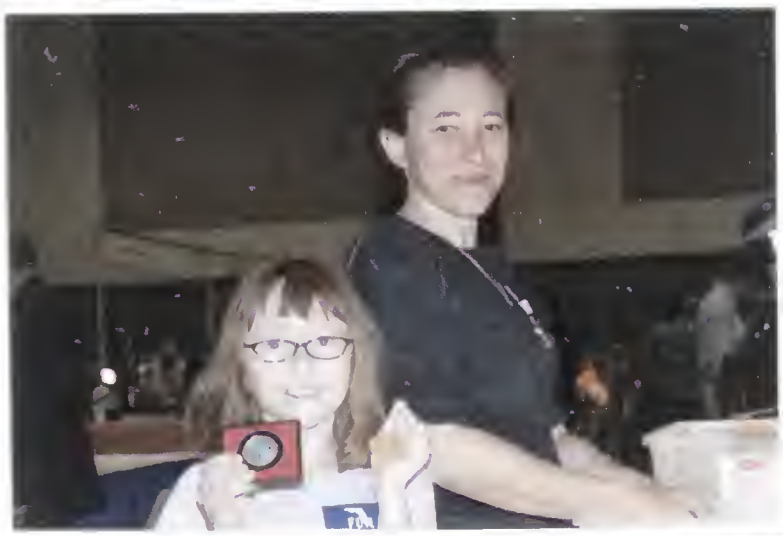
UAE 100 Dirhams
Al Fahidie Fort, in Dubai Original issue of 1982 (undated)

UAE 100 dirhams
Current note, with enhanced security features, and including a Western serial number

MORE SUMMERFUN PHOTOS

Left: **David Lisot** video tapes all of FUN's educational seminars. Right: **Fred Lake** takes still photos throughout the show.

SUMMERFUN 2009 photos



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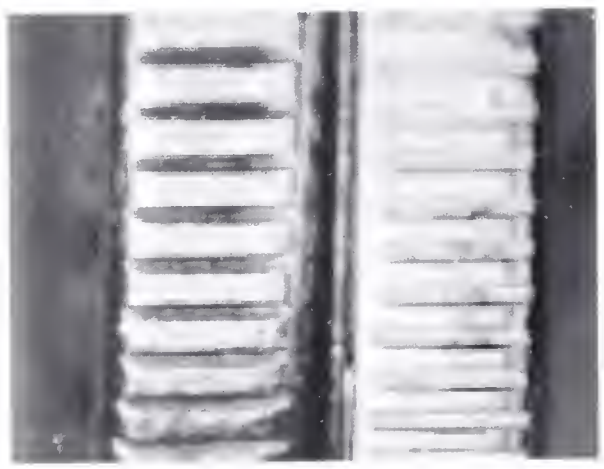
THE RAREST GSA MORGAN DOLLAR

By Michael S. Fey, Ph.D.

Nearly every dealer I know would love to sell his/her 1921 Morgan dollars. Why? They are the most common of all the Morgan silver dollars in the series. With a mintage of more than 44 million coins, they are twice as common as their Denver counterpart and many times more common than other dates. The design was not as attractive as Morgan dollars struck from 1878 to 1904. In addition, the mint struck a record number of coins from each die pair making 1921 dollars some of the least attractive coins in the series.

Dealers typically have an excess supply of 1921's hanging around. Knowing this can provide you with lots of fun and an opportunity to cash in big time.

There are currently 14 different 1921 "Wide Reed" varieties listed in the ***Top 100***. These are coins with a 157 reed count, the lowest in the Morgan dollar series. They include VAMs 4, 13, 13A, 25, 25A, 26, 26A, 27, 27A, 28, 28A, 29, 29A and 44. Each of these brings a nice premium over common prices by grade with mint state specimens bringing 300-600% for most varieties. More detail is given in the 4th Edition of the Top 100, but the most detailed reference on the subject, ***1921 P "Infrequently Reeded" or Wide Reeding Morgan Dollar Attribution Guide***, was published by Leroy Van Allen in January, 2009. (Send $6 which includes postage to: Leroy Van Allen, P.O. Box 196, Sidney, OH 45364)



Wide Reeding (left) vs. Normal Reeding

Now here's the twist. All of these different varieties can be found with a D1 reverse, meaning that there are 17 berries on the reverse. In addition, the claw on the eagle's right foot extends below the olive branch. However, VAM 44 is the only wide reed variety known that was struck with a D2 reverse, meaning there are only 16 berries on the reverse. In addition, the claw on the eagle's right foot does not extend below the olive branch.

Currently, there are only two specimens of the 1921 VAM 44 wide reed coins known. Demand for this variety is strong since many VAM collectors are trying to assemble a set of all the 1921 wide reed varieties. Demand is so strong that a circulated specimen traded hands recently for more than $1000., not bad considering a dealer would likely sell you a circulated 1921 for under $20.

There is a still yet a lot more fun to collecting Morgan dollars dated 1921. Veteran VAM collector, Rob Joyce, published Fun with ***1921-Denver Morgan Dollars with Die Breaks, Die Gouges and Filled Dies*** (2003). Leroy Van Allen published the Amazing Changing 1921 S VAM 1B Thorn Head Morgan Dollar (2004). And, more recently Leroy Van Allen and Crae Morton teamed up to publish ***1921 Scribbles Morgan Dollar Attribution Guide*** (2008).

Knowledge is King!

Michael S. Fey, Ph.D.
Co-author, The Top 100 Morgan Dollar Varieties: The VAM Keys
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____FOREIGN COINS
____ERRORS
____MEDALS, ORDERS, DECORATIONS, TOKENS
____MISCELLANEOUS
____YN (Under age 18 - One exhibit on any topic)

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FUN Member #71 • Shares a story

By Kenneth R. Kerr ••• Jackson, MS

5-23-09

Jim Best, Editor

Your article in current FUNTopics caught my eye. You might enjoy the following - In 1951 I was getting into coins rather quickly. My Dad had a friend who just happened to be a Sr. VP of the Federal Bank of Chicago. He arranged for me to get a tour of the bank on Sat. morning when bank was not open. He handed me a stack of $10,000 bills, totaling 1 millon dollars. I held for about a minute. Also 1 mill in $5,000 bills too. Quite a thrill!!

Better than the latter -- Later than that, I went to a show in Milwaukee later that year and held one of the 1913 *(nickel)* original pieces. Held for about 10 minutes. The owner (a dealer) asked if I needed that date. I said I had all but it. He said I could have for $2000. My Dad said hurry up and give it back to him. This same exact coin was #3 specimen at the Baltimore show about 2005.

Not so spectacular was a 1952 Chicago show where I saw all four of the $4.00 gold pieces "Princess".

On a lesser note -- I found all the silver dollars except 1895 for face value 1950-1957. Most dates in EF or better condition. Had two 1893S coins.

Very Truly Yours,

Ken Kerr

FUN #71

P.S. - I graduated from Florida Southern in 1957.

Editors note: Thanks for sharing this with fellow FUN Members Maybe other members have similar stories they wish to share, just send them to the Editor. Jim Best PO Box 5202, Lakeland, FL33807.

COIN CLUBS

If you would like copies of FUN-Topics for distribution at your coin show contact the EDITOR at least three months in advance. This advance notice will insure that sufficient copies are available for your show

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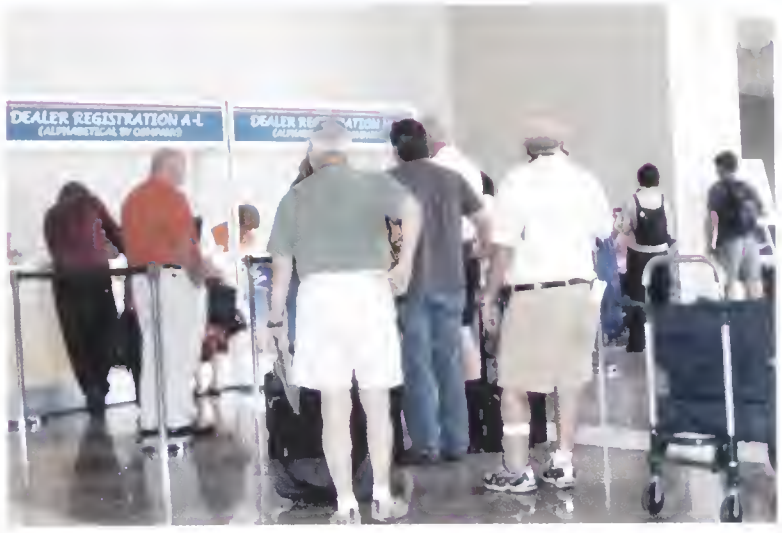

"COINAGE SOURCE, WAY BACK WHEN"

Another Numismatic Sudoku by Don Allen

SOLUTION

"Coinage Source, Way Back When," our recent Don Allen literal soduku, has as its solution, **MARK NEWBY**.

A bit of background:
Irish immigrant Mark Newby brought St. Patrick coinage," believed English in origin, with him from Dublin in 1681, and the half-pence was authorized to pass as legal tender by the General Assembly, New Jersey Province, the following year.

"Or so my vintage Redbook informs me," Don reports.

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A	N	W	Y	K	M	B	R	E
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N	W	Y	B	M	A	R	E	K
E	K	B	R	Y	W	M	A	N
M	A	R	K	N	E	W	B	Y
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Solution: Mark Newby

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Awards two scholarships to ANA Summer seminars

Adult Scholarship Program

This program is to assist adult(s) to attend the Annual ANA Summer Seminar with dormitory rooming, tuition, and coach transportation. We hope the intent of the scholarship matches your expectation. Below we outline the qualification process and the guidelines the F.U.N. board of Directors have approved. GOOD LUCK!!!

2009 Winner - Antonio Acevedo

Eligibility:

1) Membership in F.U.N. for at least one year before applying for scholarship.
2) Membership in the American Numismatic Association.
3) Demonstrated interest and ability in sharing knowledge through one or more of the following:
   a) Giving presentations to non-numismatic entities, such as schools, community service groups, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.
   b) Presenting programs at coin clubs or coin shows.
   c) Writing articles for local, regional, or national numismatic publications.
   d) Serving in leadership positions for local clubs, or volunteering to help insure a successful coin club or coin show.
4) Agreeing to submit an article to FUN Topics upon return from the Annual ANA Summer Seminar on the subject matter of your class.
5) This award must be used the year it is awarded.

General Guidelines:

Submit a short Essay (less than 500 words) on what you have done for numismatics since becoming involved in the hobby. Tell us your area of interest and how the ANA Summer Seminar would help in pursuing your goals. Please give examples of how you plan to share your experiences with fellow hobby enthusiasts after attending the seminar. **The deadline for your application must be postmarked by October 1, 2009** and mailed to: FUN, Nancy Casey, Secretary, 2293 Austrian Lane #21, Clearwater, FL 33763.

BEST-OF-SHOW

The Best-of-Show Exhibit winner will be presented the Louis Montesi Award along with a scholarship to the ANA Summer Seminar at the Annual Florida United Numismatist coin convention every year. The following requirements will apply:

2009 Winner - Steven Middleton

1. Only one scholarship will be given each year for the Best-of-Show winner.
2. Your subject matter may not win the scholarship in consecutive years. In case the same exhibit would get another Best-of-Show within a consecutive year, no scholarship would be given out that year.
3. If you win the scholarship, you would be required to be an ANA member before the scholarship is awarded.
4. You are required to write an article for FUN-Topics.
5. FUN will pay for coach airfare, tuition, and a room in the dorm and food in the campus cafeteria. If anyone wants to stay and eat elsewhere, they will be given a $ amount equal to the "Campus rates".
6. The award must be used the year it is awarded.
7. Any deviation from the above must be approved by the FUN Board of Directors.

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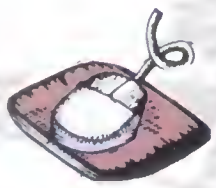

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